

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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6 June 1952.

CONSTITUTION

of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy.

(N.S.V.L. A.L.M.A.V.U.)

(D.O.S.A.A.F. U.S.S.R.)

Issued by A.L.M.A.V.U., Moscow, 1952.

Affirmed by Decision No. 2584 of the Council of Ministers of the USSR on 6 June 1952.

I

GENERAL

1. The All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy (NSVL ALMAVU) is a voluntary mass-organization of Soviet workers to help enlarge the might of the Soviet Army, Air Force, and Navy. The association instructs its members in Soviet patriotism, in loyalty to the Socialist Fatherland, and in being prepared for its defense.

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2. The work of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy is based on initiative among ALMAVU members, led by Party organizations, and is in close cooperation with soviet, labor unions, Communist youth, and other organizations.
3. The principal duties of the association are:
 - a. To spread and propagate military, military-technical, air, and naval information among members and the public.
 - b. To recruit more members and to bring them together to take an active part en masse in military training and instruction.
 - c. To prepare members and the public in all aspects of air and chemical defense.
 - d. To train members in one chosen military, military-technical, air, or naval subject.
 - e. To propagate mass training in skiing, shooting, flying, parachuting, gliding, radio, car, motorcycle, and horseback riding, military, naval, and water sports, and also aircraft and ship modelling.
 - f. To develop breeding of service dogs.
4. To achieve this, the association:
 - a. Explains the duties and importance of the organization to the public, and the need to strengthen the power of the Soviets, the Army, Air Force, and Navy.
 - b. Utilizes the officers serving with the local garrisons, sergeants and engineer - technicians, and scholars; organizes lectures and discussions for members and the public on military, military-technical, air, and naval subjects, also on the history of warfare.
 - c. Issues newspapers, periodicals, literature, and posters; organizes films of military-technical, naval, and air force subjects for training and agitation-propaganda purposes.
 - d. Uses press, radio, and cultural-educational offices for spreading and propagating military, military-technical, air, and naval knowledge among members and the public.
 - e. Organizes clubs, schools, lectures, groups, educational and sporting competition, and houses for the dissemination of information on army, air and naval subjects; military exhibitions and window displays, laboratories for air and naval modelling, workshops for constructors; gliding, parachuting, water sports and sailing centers, amateur and collective radio stations, shooting ranges, artillery ranges, camps, military sports stadiums, airfields, motor racing, etc.
 - f. Organizes and trains members and the public for air and chemical defense.
 - g. Arranges training meetings, tactical exercises, military type of marches, competitions of mass skiing, shooting, modelling, motor sports, horseback riding, and water sports.
 - h. Helps to develop inventions and constructions by ALMAVU members designed to strengthen the Soviet Army, Air Force, and Navy.
 - i. Trains instructors and leaders in the organization.
 - j. Establishes, in a social sense, bases for ALMAVU training and technical materials.

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- k. Organizes the breeding, training, and showing of service dogs.
5. Organizations will be formed in Soviet and autonomous republics, in kray, oblast, okrug, towns, and rayons; these will act in accordance with this constitution.
6. The election of leading organs in ALMAVU and of delegates for conferences is by secret ballot.
7. The All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy is an official body and has the right in law to acquire properties, to open independent economic and trading enterprises as far as is necessary for the fulfilment of the requirements of the ALMAVU, to open and use credit accounts in the USSR, to conclude agreements, to issue orders, and to appear in courts in State arbitrations.
8. The All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association has a flag and an emblem, a Central Committee of the All-Union ALMAVU. Committees of republics, kray, oblast, okrug, towns, and rayons have flags and emblems bearing the emblem and name.
9. The Constitution of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association is issued in Russian, and in the languages of the Soviet and autonomous republics.

II

THE DUTIES AND RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF A.L.M.A.V.U.

10. All citizens of the Soviet Union from the age of 14, who abide by the Constitution and belong to and work in one of the sub-organizations and who pay membership fees regularly, may join the ALMAVU.
11. New members are accepted individually by written application and by personal interview. New members will be accepted by decision of the committee of the sub-organization, or where no committee exists - by a meeting of members of the sub-organization. Membership will date from the day on which the committee or the meeting made the decision to accept the applicant. A membership card will be issued to the new member by the leader of the sub-organization.
12. A member of ALMAVU is required to:
 - a. Take part in the work, attend meetings of the sub-organization, and fulfill all duties given by the organization.
 - b. Pay membership fees when due.
 - c. Explain and propagate the aims and duties of ALMAVU to the public and to help draw workers of the Soviet Union to the organization.
 - d. Study a special subject in military matters and to perfect his military knowledge.
 - e. Maintain discipline and preserve weapons and materials of the organization from damage or loss.
 - f. Produce his membership card, when travelling from one sub-organization to another, for endorsement by the leader of the branch visited.
13. Members of ALMAVU are entitled:
 - a. To elect and to be elected to leading ALMAVU organizations; to take part as a voter at meetings of members.

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Note:

Persons may be elected to the leading organizations from the age of 18. Persons under 18 years of age may be elected to committees in secondary, railway, industrial, and factory schools and to auditing committees of sub-organizations.

- b. To belong to the clubs of ALMAVU.
 - c. To study in ALMAVU study organizations.
 - d. To take part in ALMAVU organized competitions and exhibitions.
14. For especially active work in ALMAVU organizations, for inventions, high educational success, sports, etc., members of ALMAVU will be honored:
- a. By public approbation of a committee or sub-organization meeting; by having their names entered on the Roll of Honor; and by gifts, prizes, etc.
 - b. In addition, the committees of okrugi and rayony will write "Letters of Honor".
 - c. By the Central Committee, republic, kray, and oblast committees awarding all honors and prizes agreed in the organization.
15. Committees and meetings of sub-organizations may take the following action against members who fail to carry out their tasks: social censure, reproof, and, as the extreme penalty for dishonoring the name of ALMAVU members, dismissal from the organization. Dismissal will take effect after confirmation by the ALMAVU rayon (or town) committee.

III

CENTRAL ORGANIZATIONS

16. Central organizations of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy are:
- a. All-Union Congress.
 - b. Central Committee.
 - c. Central Auditing Commission.

All-Union Congress

17. The All-Union Congress of the organization is the highest organ of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy.
18. The All-Union Congress is convened by the Central Committee at least once every four years. The All-Union Extraordinary Congress of ALMAVU may be called by the Central Committee or at the demand of at least one-third of the membership. The convening of the All-Union Congress and the date will be announced at least one and one-half months in advance. The Central Committee determines the delegate representation and the order of their election.
19. The All-Union Congress of ALMAVU is empowered to make decisions when these are supported by not less than two-thirds of the elected delegates.
20. The All-Union Congress of ALMAVU:
- a. Confirms reports of the Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission and determines the future duties of ALMAVU.

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- b. Accepts the Constitution of ALMAVU and discusses questions concerning changes or additions.
- c. Accepts the ALMAVU flag and emblem.
- d. Elects the Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission.

21. The Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission are elected by a full meeting of the All-Union Congress.

Central Committee

22. In the interim between All-Union Congresses the Central Committee leads the activities of the organization. The Central Committee is elected for four years. A plenary meeting of the Central Committee is called not less than once a year.

23. The Central Committee of ALMAVU:

- a. Represents the organization in every state and social organization and personifies ALMAVU as an official body.
- b. Submits the flag and emblem accepted by the All-Union Congress to the Council of Ministers of the USSR for approval.
- c. Works out and approves the military, military-technical, air force, and naval training programs for ALMAVU members.
- d. Publishes newspapers, periodicals, books, and posters; organizes military training and agitation-propaganda films on military, military-technical, air, and naval questions.
- e. Establishes clubs, schools, houses for Army, Air Force, and Naval propaganda; technical laboratories; self-supporting production, technical enterprises; gliding, parachute, water, and ski centers; recreation centers; artillery ranges; shooting stands; camps; military sports villages; airfields; motor racing tracks; etc.
- f. Organizes All-Union competitions and exhibitions of sports and air and naval modelling.
- g. Registers and confirms sports records of members of ALMAVU and All-Union achievements in skiing, shooting, radio, motor racing, riding, air, naval, and water sports, and air and naval modelling.
- h. Contacts, in accordance with the law, international sporting organizations, solves questions concerning participation in international competitions and sports and in international congresses and conferences.
- i. Confirms the budget and balance sheet of the ALMAVU.
- j. Checks and affirms the plans of the Committees of republics, kray, and oblasts for training organizations, self-supporting enterprises, and checks the returns, budgets, and fulfillment of affirmed plans and budgets.
- k. Determines the regulations of the training organizations and the constitution of ALMAVU enterprises.
- l. Elaborates in detail on the question of staffs for ALMAVU committees, training organizations, and enterprises, and presents them for confirmation.
- m. Institutes Letters of Honor, diplomas, and badges.
- n. Approves projects and specimens of stamps, universal membership cards, membership stamps, letters of Honor, diplomas, and badges.

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24. To direct the day-to-day work of the ALMAVU, the Central Committee elects a Presidium comprising: chairman, vice-chairman, and members, whose number will be fixed by the Central Committee.
25. Agreements, obligations, and mandates are signed by the chairman of the Central Committee. Financial papers are signed by the chairman or vice-chairman, without a special authorization, and by the chief accountant or by a person authorized by him.

The Central Auditing Commission

26. The Central Auditing Commission (CAC) of ALMAVU is elected for four years. The CAC elects a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary.
27. The CAC reviews:
 - a. Financial activities of ALMAVU Central Committee, and the assets and returns of directly subordinate training organizations and enterprises.
 - b. Income from membership fees.
 - c. Management in the Central Committee.
28. The CAC reports to the All-Union ALMAVU Congress. Between the times of congresses, the CAC reports and makes practical proposals to the Central Committee for discussion. Meetings of the CAC are called by the chairman as necessary, but not less than once a year.
29. Members of the CAC may take part in Central Committee meetings and may vote in an advisory capacity but they may not be members of the Central Committee.

IV

ORGANS OF THE REPUBLICS, KRAY, AND OBLASTI

30. The highest organ of ALMAVU in the republics, kray, and oblast is the republic, kray, or oblast congress.
31. The republic congress (in Union Republics) meets not less than once in four years; republic, kray, and oblast congresses (in autonomous republics) not less than once in two years. An extraordinary republic, kray, or oblast congress is called by their committees or on the demand of at least one-third of the members or by decision of the Central Committee. An announcement will be made four weeks in advance regarding the congress and the agenda. A special committee determines the election of delegates and the form of representations.
32. A republic, kray, or oblast congress is official when at least two-thirds of the elected delegates are present.
33. Republic, kray, and oblast congresses of ALMAVU:
 - a. Hear and confirm reports of the respective commissions and committees.
 - b. Elect committees and auditing committees of republics, kray, and oblast.
34. The republic committees and auditing committees in union republics are elected for four years - republic, kray, oblast committees and auditing commissions are elected (in autonomous republics) for two years.
35. The corresponding committees direct activities during the periods of congresses of republics, kray, and oblast.
36. The republic, kray, and oblast committees of ALMAVU:

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- a. Confirm the budget and balance sheet.
 - b. Check and confirm budgets and returns of subordinate committees, training organizations, plans of enterprises and their operations.
 - c. Organize lessons, clubs, schools, classes on military subjects, exhibitions, centers for gliding and parachuting, water sports, skiing, radio, etc., artillery ranges, shooting grounds, camps, etc.
 - d. Register and confirm sports records and achievements of republics, kray, and oblasti in skiing, sport, shooting, radio, motor racing, riding, air, naval, and water sports, modelling, and military subjects generally.
37. To direct the day-to-day work of the ALMAVU organizations the Union Republic Committee elects a presidium comprising: chairman, vice-chairman, and members, whose numbers are fixed by the Union Republic committee. The Union Republic committee meets at least once a year. The Autonomous Republic, kray, or oblast committee elects a chairman and deputies.
 38. Agreements, obligations, and mandates are signed by the republic, kray, or oblast committee chairman, or vice-chairman and by the chief accountant or by a person authorized by him.
 39. The auditing commission of a republic, kray, or oblast elects a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary from among its own members.
 40. The auditing commission of a republic, kray, or oblast reviews:
 - a. The financial activity of the committee; the situation regarding assets, and reporting from training organizations and enterprises.
 - b. Income from membership fees.
 - c. Business in the committee machinery.
 41. Auditing commissions of republics, kray, and oblasti report their activities to the congress. In times between congresses, the auditing commission refers results of audits and practical suggestions to the relevant committee for discussion. Auditing commissions meet as required, but not less than once a year.
 42. Members of auditing commissions are not eligible to be committee members, but they may participate in committee meetings and exercise their vote in an advisory capacity.

V

ORGANS OF TOWNS, OKRUGI, AND RAYONY

43. The highest organ of the ALMAVU in towns, okrugi, and rayony is the congress.
44. The congress of towns, okrugi, and rayony meets at the request of committees at least once in two years. Extraordinary sessions may be called by higher ALMAVU committees of towns, okrugi, and rayony or at the request of at least one-third of members of the Association. Meetings are advertised at least four weeks in advance. Decisions may be taken if two-thirds of the delegates are present.
45. Congresses of towns, okrugi, and rayony hear and confirm reports of corresponding committees and auditing committees, and elect the committees and auditing committees of towns, okrugi, and rayony.
46. The committees are elected for two years in numbers fixed by the congress.
47. Corresponding committees conduct business during periods between congresses. The committee elects a chairman and vice-chairman from among its own members.

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48. The committees of towns, okrugi, and rayony:
 - a. Form and confirm suborganizations of ALMAVU, and keep records of sub-organizations and members.
 - b. Prepare training plans for ALMAVU members and organize their training in military, military-technical, air, and naval subjects.
 - c. Secure fulfilment of the membership subscription.
 - d. Check and confirm personnel and mass military training reports.
 - e. Organize training and educational groups, sports competitions, exhibitions, military camps, shooting grounds, etc.
 - f. Arrange sports competitions, air and naval modelling, and other military activities.
49. Agreements, obligations, and mandates are signed by the chairman or vice-chairman of the town, okrug, or rayon committee. Financial documents are signed by the chairman or vice-chairman and chief accountant or by a person authorized by him.
50. Auditing commissions of towns, okrugi, and rayony are elected for two years. An auditing commission elects from among its own number a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary. Members of auditing commissions are not eligible as members of corresponding committees, but may participate in their meetings, exercising an advisory vote.
51. The auditing commission reviews financial reports, assets, membership fees, and the business of corresponding committees. Meetings of the auditing commission are convened by the chairman not less than once a year.
52. The auditing commissions of towns, okrugi, and rayony are responsible to their respective congresses. Between times of congresses, the auditing commission reports and makes practical suggestions to the corresponding committees.

VI

SUBORGANIZATIONS

53. The foundations of the ALMAVU are its suborganizations..
54. To fulfil the aims of the organization, the suborganization:
 - a. Explains to the public the aims and duties of ALMAVU, and the need for strengthening the Army, Air Force, and Navy, and draws masses of workers as members.
 - b. Organizes lectures and discussions for ALMAVU members and the public on military, military-technical, air, and naval themes; distributes military, political, historical, and technical literature.
 - c. Organizes groups and classes for military, military-technical, air force, and naval instruction, and prepares members and the public for all branches of air and chemical defense, and also organizes military-sport commandos and directs their activities.
 - d. Organizes and runs mass competitions, tactical exercises, long military marches, and excursions to military exhibitions and museums.
 - e. Arranges training classes, small arms firing ranges, technical, air and naval modelling laboratories, skiing, gliding, parachute, and swimming centers and exhibitions, and publishes bulletins. To lead classes, groups, commandos, and to run lessons, discussions, and other military and

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sporting subjects, the suborganizations bring together activists of the ALMAVU, officers of local garrisons, reserve officers, NCOs, engineers, and intellectuals.

55. ALMAVU suborganizations base their work on initiative of members under the leadership of Party organs, and cooperate closely with soveti, labor unions, Communist youth, and other organizations and by the help of training centers, firms, and leaders of kolkhozy and sovkhozy.
 56. ALMAVU suborganizations are established in firms, kolkhozy, sovkhozy, machine tractor stations, training centers, schools, and housing administration where there are at least three members of the association.
 57. In ALMAVU suborganizations where there are over 100 members, "sub-suborganizations" may be formed in shifts, in brigades, in kolkhozy, sovkhozy, and MTS, departments of offices and firms, in courses, in classes of schools, giving them the rights of the suborganizations.
 58. In suborganizations with under 100 members, groups may be organized in departments and shifts, kolkhozy, sovkhozy, and brigades of MTS classes and schools. Exceptionally, in brigades of kolkhozy, depending on territorial locations, the rights of a suborganization may be given, but only by permission of the rayon committee.
 59. The highest authority of the suborganization is the general meeting of members (congress). Decisions can be made when at least two-thirds of ALMAVU members are present. A meeting of members must be called at least once every three months.
 60. In suborganizations with over 15 members, a committee is elected for one year by the members meeting (congress), in numbers specified by the general meeting (congress). Where less than 15 members, a chairman and vice-chairman only are elected. Organizers are elected for the groups. Committees elect their chairman, vice-chairman, and treasurer by open vote.
 61. To control financial questions, income from membership subscriptions, the care of training equipment, work, and training, an auditing commission is elected for one year by the meeting (congress). Committee members are not elected to the auditing commission. The auditing commission elects from their members a chairman and vice-chairman. In suborganizations with under 15 members, an auditor is elected. The auditing commission and the auditor report to the general meeting. Members of an auditing commission may participate in committee meetings, exercising an advisory vote.
 62. The financial resources of ALMAVU suborganizations consist of entrance fees, by deduction of 30 percent of sums accumulated from membership fees, from social organizations and firms who are interested in developing the organization, and from other income.
- ALMAVU committees of suborganizations have accounts with savings banks of the USSR. Financial documents of the committees of suborganizations are signed by the chairman, vice-chairman, or treasurer.
63. The general meeting confirms the budget of the suborganization..

VII

THE SECTIONS OF COMMITTEES

64. Sections for organizing military training, military sports, and propaganda are established. These sections work under the Central Committee, republic, kray, oblast, town, okrug, and rayon committees, and under the larger sub-organization committees. The work of the sections is laid down in regulations affirmed by the Central Committee.

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VIII

INCOME OF THE ORGANIZATION

65. The financial resources of the ALMAVU are derived from:
- a. Entrance and membership fees.
 - b. Social organizations and firms interested in the development of the ALMAVU.
 - c. Printing, industrial, and training enterprises, and other income.
66. Members of ALMAVU pay a subscription of three rubles a year in one payment or in two installments. Pupils of secondary, industrial, railroad, and factory schools, and housewives pay one ruble a year. An entrance fee of one ruble and the cost of the membership card is paid on entry. Inmates of orphanages are exempt from payment of entrance and membership fees, and the cost of a membership card.

XI

LIQUIDATION OF ALMAVU

67. Liquidation of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy may take place by:
- a. Decision of the All-Union Congress.
 - b. By decree of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The emblem of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy.

Description

The emblem of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy is a white oval, surrounded by a golden laurel wreath. In the center a carbine and automatic rifle are crossed. At this cross, there is a Soviet star with hammer and sickle. In the lower part of the oval there is an anchor, and above the red star is an aircraft in flight. In the upper part of the oval a red band is inscribed "DOSAAF USSR".

The emblem is for:

All stamps of ALMAVU organizations.

Badges for ALMAVU members.

Emblem for the challenge flag.

Emblem for posters, books, periodicals, materials, and plaques.

Description of the flag of the All-Union Voluntary Assistance Association of the Army, Air Force, and Navy:

The flag is the red material having a length and breadth ratio of 3: 2.

In the left hand top corner is the emblem of the association having a diameter equal to one-eighth of the width of the flag. In the lower part throughout the length and one-sixth from the lower edge is a band in the colors of the red flag decoration, to a width of one-sixth of the cloth.

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